



# Southeast Signal

*News, Events, and Information from Around the System*

## From the Director



I'll admit, it still surprises me a little when I talk to a librarian and they aren't aware of the phrase "local cataloging standards". For those of you who haven't heard of it, local cataloging standards are

the things you catalog differently in your library than the others libraries might.

For example, where should a biography of legendary Nebraska football coach and former Congressman, Tom Osborne, be placed? Some libraries have a separate biography section and would place it there. Others have a section dedicated to all things regarding the state of Nebraska and would catalog it to be on those shelves. Yet another variant is the library that has neither, but likes to have everything about the Cornhusker football team gathered together and the book would reside among books about the history of the program, the National Championship teams, Bob Devaney's biography, and a book about Kenny Walker, the deaf football player from the late 1980s who went on to play in the NFL.

Which one is correct? It depends on which community you are in and how they look for information.

If you are a small library, does it really help people if you use a 12 digit Cutter number? In your community, does it really help to have computer books split between the General & Technology sections? If at your library you separate the fiction from non-fiction, why might you still have fiction books in the 800s (Dewey) or the P's (LoC)? The majority of what you find in WorldCat or other cataloging resources often work just fine, but think about how people are going to find items in your community. Also remember, the records from those resources could have more than a couple suggested subject headings or call numbers and some of them could be wrong.

Now, I'm not suggesting you go about throwing things in places at a whim. Be consistent and document your decisions and practices, so the next person that catalogs for your library knows why you made the decisions you did. You still want standards, even if they are only for your library.

*Many thanks to Emily Dust Nimsakont and Ruth Carlock for their advice on this piece!*

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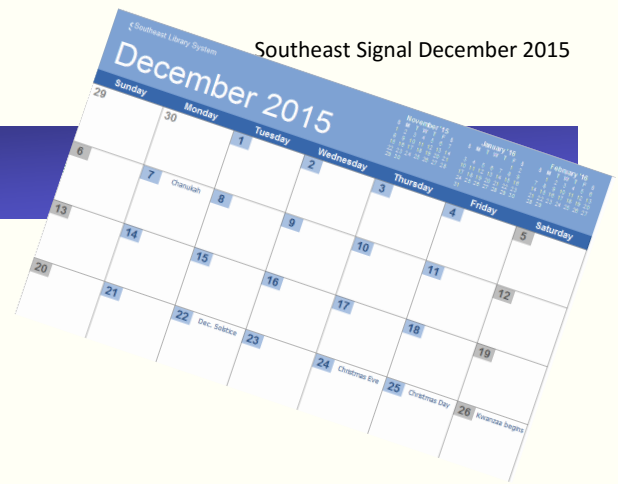
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# Calendar



**December 10—CASTL Meeting at Fairmont Public Library (Circulation Policy + Knitting Activities)**

**December 12—Gingerbread House Day**

**December 13—National Violin Day**

**December 15—Bill of Rights Day**

**December 17 —Application Deadline for 2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program, see p. 9.**

**December 19—SELS Friends Private Movie Showing (Star Wars: The Force Awakens), 10 am, see p. 11**

**December 22—National Flashlight Day**

**December 24—National Eggnog Day, Christmas Eve**

**December 25—Christmas**

**December 26—Kwanzaa Begins**

**December 28—National Card Playing Day**

**December 31—National Champagne Day, New Years Eve**

**January 1—New Years Day**

**January 2—National Science Fiction Day**

**January 5—Deadline to register for Central Community College Library Courses, see p. 10,**

**January 11—National Clean Off Your Desk Day**

**January 13—National Rubber Ducky Day**

**January 18—Martin Luther King, Jr. Day**

**January 19—National Popcorn Day**

**January 22—CASTL Meeting at Milford**

**January 28—Library Improvement Grant Applications due to Nebraska Library Commission**

**March 17—SELS Policies for Results workshop, Seward Public Library, 10 am—3 pm**

## Photo of the Month



This photo of the month is actually a photo composition provided by Emmy Fiala, K-12 media specialist at Aurora Public Schools. Emmy states: "We enjoy December with a book tree and some Christmas punnery in the Media Center."



# CASTL Wrap-Up

## Upcoming CASTL Meetings

December 10

Fairmont  
"Circulation Policy" &  
"Knitting Crafts"

January 22

Milford

February 19

Beatrice

March 24

Fairbury

April 22

Lincoln—Gere Branch  
"Collecting Local History"

May 26

Hruska Memorial Library  
David City

June

TBD

July 21

Geneva Public Library

Our November 20 CASTL meeting was held at Syracuse Public Library and hosted by Sue Antes. We had a discussion on vendors and a round robin sharing session.

Quality of service emerged as a key issue in choosing vendors. Another was "buying local" versus "purchasing at the best price." At times a "buy local" policy is hard to follow due to the lack of a local vendor or high prices. One library had the specific policy that they will buy for the lowest price.

It was noted that if a vendor really wants your business, they will often work with you to give you a better deal. Leasing books versus buying was also discussed, including whether leasing results in savings.

Large print standing orders were part of the conversation. Also, Morton-James Public Library (Nebraska City) provides a wonderful service in providing four week loans of large print collections to other libraries.

Many libraries are using Amazon heavily, so a corporate account is sometimes an option.

A number of audio book vendors such as Micromarketing, Audio Editions, Junior Library Guild (preloaded audio books which are cheaper than Playaways), Recorded Books, and Amazon received positive reviews. If Amazon is used, sometimes the audio book is repackaged by the library before it goes on the shelf. It was noted that Micromarketing will replace a disc for \$6.00 "forever," while Audio Editions will replace a disc for \$8 for one year.

On the topic of DVD's, some libraries have had problems with stolen DVDs. Attempted solutions include security cameras or placing discs behind the desk.

Discussion turned to sensors that automatically tally the number of people in a given time period without staff having to go look at the count. Ashland has such a system. Also, tips for graffiti remover and information about active shooter trainings were shared.

## Upcoming Basic Skills Courses

Registration will be open soon for the next set of basic skills courses, offered through the Nebraska Library Commission. To see the full calendar & register for classes, [click here](#). Here's what's coming up next:

<u>Dates of Class</u>	<u>Topic</u>	<u>Registration Open</u>
Jan. 11—Jan. 12	Communication	December 4—December 31
Jan. 25—Feb. 5	Library Technology	December 18—January 15
Feb. 8—Feb. 19	Customer Service	December 30—January 29
Feb. 29—March 11	Library Governance	January 19—February 24



# News Around the System

## Falls City Finalist in the Polka Dot Pants Dance Contest

By Gail Foerschl



The whole town of Falls City participated in the Polka Dot Pants Dance contest sponsored by author, Eric Litwin. There were 80 entries and Falls City was a finalist in the contest.

Even though Falls City would have loved to be the Grand Prize winner, they had a great time making their contest video. Click on the image to the left to view!

## Hebron Secrest Library is a Busy Place

By Terry Olson

Hebron Secrest's Bulletin Board Minions have donned Santa hats and are singing out *Tis the season to be reading...Happy Holidays to You!*

The library collaborated with the Chamber to help facilitate the Hebron's Annual Christmas Fair on November 22nd. Some vendors were stationed in our activity room and the library provided sign-

age and Facebook advertisement as well as holiday décor and music.



age and carols were sung and fun was had by all. 36 children and 14 adults attended. Outreach story times are also being planned.

They will be having a mini cartooning workshop "Drawing With Tony" for children in the 3rd - 6th grades during Christmas break. Local artist Tony Boettjer will be the instructor.





# News Around the System

## "Antique" Tree on Display

*Provided by Heather Koeneke*



This tree is a bit different than the one found on page 2 or page 6. It is made entirely of antique books and is ornamented with checkout cards. The tree is on display at Auburn Public Library.

For making a decorative book tree out of a single paperback, see this [blog post](#).

## Numerous Princesses Make an Appearance in Stromsburg

*By Monica Tidyman*



Stromsburg Public Library hosted a Princess Party in November. Local Cross County Junior, Katie Bresnahan, Miss Nebraska Teen 2015, was available for pictures with the little princesses and read princess stories. Over 20 princesses showed!

## Wahoo Public Library Supports SELS Friends

*Provided by Denise Lawver*

The toys on... the book case are all of the items we bought at BN during the fundraiser. Wahoo Library spent \$443!

**Denise Lawver**





# News Around the System

## 50 Santas on Display at Palmyra Open House

By Glenda Willnerd



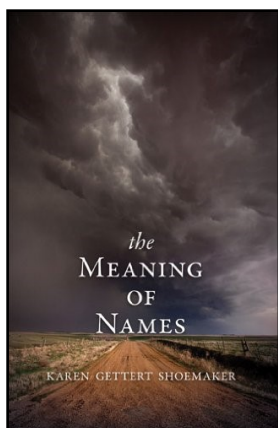
Gloria Hall of rural Palmyra, Nebraska, shared her Christmas Santa collection with the library patrons that attended the Holiday Open House on Sunday, December 6th. Several of the Santas were over 50 years old. Approximately 45 people attended the open house and enjoyed Christmas treats and music.



## Christmas By The Book

Sara Lee, of Central City Public Library, took the picture to the right. She wrote: "We celebrate #ChristmasByTheBook (literally) at our library!"

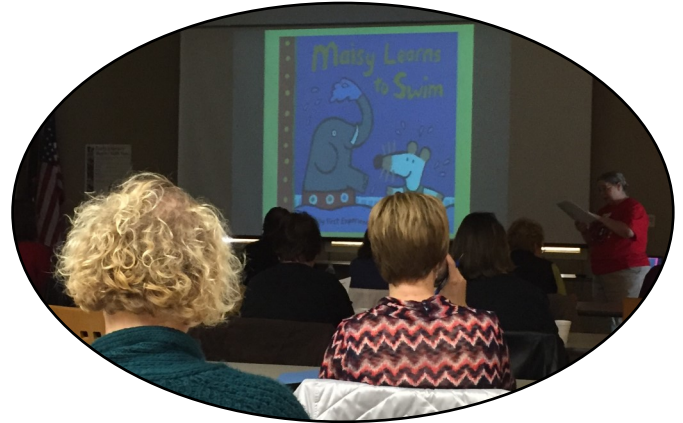
## Checkout SELS Book Kit for 2016 One Book One Nebraska



SELS now possesses a Book Kit with 15 copies of Karen Shoemaker's work entitled *The Meaning of Names*. This 2016 Choice for "One Book One Nebraska" is set in Stuart, Nebraska in 1918. World War I is on the minds of many, and those of German extraction face a hostile environment. Libraries across Nebraska will join other literary and cultural organizations in planning book discussions, activities, and events that will encourage Nebraskans to read and discuss this book. Updates and activity listings are posted on the One Book One Nebraska Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/onebookonenebraska>.



# Summer Reading Workshop Images



## 2016 PLANS

### 4-H Healthy Living

- ☐ Ready, Set—Read a Recipe
- ☐ Ready, Set—Think Your Drink
- ☐ Ready, Set—Fill Your Plate
- ☐ Ready, Set—Use Your Senses





# News

## Virtual Reality

by Craig Lefteroff, NLC Technology Innovation Librarian

Virtual reality has been a hot topic for a long while, but only recently has the technology reached levels of price and accessibility that have made it worth considering for non-gigantic libraries. The phrase “virtual reality” brings to mind clunky glasses strapped to the face and, make no mistake, fully wearable hardware is still a huge part of the virtual reality landscape. Microsoft’s upcoming [HoloLens](#) and Oculus Rift’s [new headset](#) are good examples of fully-prefabricated VR devices that you affix to your head. They’re also good examples of pretty expensive technology, outside the budget of libraries which are not already committed to large-scale VR projects. But there are affordable alternatives for those who are interested in trying out VR without breaking the bank.

It doesn’t get much more economical than Google’s [Cardboard project](#). Google offers downloadable instructions which will allow you to make your own VR viewer using magnets, Velcro, and cardboard from an old cereal or pizza box. If you’re not inclined to DIY, you can also purchase pre-assembled cardboard or plastic viewers from a vendor. The New York Times [sent out free Cardboard kits](#) to their subscribers with the November 8, 2015, Sunday edition. Once you’ve built or bought your Cardboard set, you’ll insert a fairly new and large smartphone into the viewer.



[Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike 3.0 Unported](#) License. Untitled [Photo](#) (cropped) by [Runner1928](#).

Other manufacturers offer similar budget-friendly tech. Oculus is offering a [\\$99 headset](#) which works with 2015 Samsung phones. Even [View-Master](#) has revamped their product into a \$30 virtual reality device. Don’t worry, they still use reels. There are plenty of other companies which provide low-cost VR viewers. Potential buyers should remember, however, that many of these devices work in tandem with smartphones, so be sure to budget for both the \$30 Google Cardboard set and the \$600 cell phone.

So what can you do with this technology? As you might expect, games are a natural fit for virtual reality. The popular game Minecraft is [coming](#) for the Oculus Rift and Google’s Play Store has an entire section devoted to [VR-friendly apps](#) for Cardboard. But the possibilities extend beyond gaming. The recent Democratic debate on CNN featured a virtual reality broadcast that was apparently [rather quirky](#). And some [hotel chains](#) are experimenting with VR devices that allow viewers to travel to far-flung locations. Imagine a program on weather that would allow patrons to step *into* a hurricane through a VR viewer. Or a program on Italian cooking that ends with a VR tour of Milan. With costs dropping, it’s becoming affordable to experiment, so you might consider finding a place for virtual reality at your library.



# News

## Deadline Approaches for Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program

By JoAnn S. McManus, Grants Coordinator, Nebraska Library Commission

The Nebraska Library Commission will make up to \$25,000 available to **accredited Nebraska public libraries** for internships through the 2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program.

Similar to internship grant funding provided in 2011 to 2014 by the IMLS Laura Bush 21<sup>st</sup> Century Librarian Program, this internship program works to introduce high school and college students to the varied and exciting work of Nebraska libraries. The internships are intended to function as a recruitment tool in helping the student to view the library as a viable career opportunity while providing the public library with the finances (up to \$1,000 per library or branch) to provide stipends to the student(s). In the past student interns have helped the libraries expand programs, complete projects, improve websites, and expand social media use, while bringing in fresh ideas to the library. **Grant applications are now being accepted electronically and must be received no later than 5:00 PM Central Time, December 17, 2015.** Details about the 2016 Nebraska Library Internship Grant Program, along with the application form, may be found at <http://nowhiringatyourlibrary.nebraska.gov/internships.asp>. Questions may be directed to: JoAnn McManus, Grants Program Manager, at [joann.mcmanus@nebraska.gov](mailto:joann.mcmanus@nebraska.gov) or call her at 402-471-4870 or 800-307-2665.

Grant awards will range from \$500 to \$1,000. Public libraries that have multiple branches may apply for \$500 to \$1,000 per branch. No matching funds are required. The grant awards are restricted to any of the following: stipends provided to the intern(s), intern wages, and withholdings such as FICA and taxes.

Internship periods will be determined by the library receiving the award; however they must start no earlier than March 15, 2016 and they must be completed on or before November 30, 2016.

Libraries interested in applying for an internship grant are encouraged to view the recording of the November 4, 2015 NCompass Live session entitled, [“2016 Nebraska Library Internship Program.”](#)

To help you develop a timeline and list of possible intern activities for your proposed internship, you are encouraged to download the example [Proposed Timeline and Schedule of Internship Activities](#).

Libraries that receive an internship grant are asked to orient their intern(s) to the broad range of work that takes place at public libraries. To help you develop an orientation plan that fits your library, you are encouraged to download and review the [Sample Public Library Orientation Plan](#).



Consider giving a high school or college school student work experience in your library! [Creative Commons License 2.0](#). Untitled [photo](#) (cropped) by [Flickr User aamyindholm](#).

*This project is supported in part by the Institute of Museum and Library Services under the provisions of the Library Services and Technology Act as administered by the Nebraska Library Commission.*





## Library & Information Services

Online Course Offerings

Spring 2016

January 11, 2016 – May 5, 2016

### ***LIBR 2150 Managing Collections in Libraries and Information Agencies***

*Patty Birch, Instructor*

This course will provide students with an understanding of managing collections in libraries and information agencies, including:

- Basics of Collection Management (terminology, models)
- 21st Century Literacies
- Selection (All resources, for all age levels)
- Acquisition
- Deselection/Weeding
- Intellectual Freedom
- Copyright

*Suggested prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services*

*For information regarding course content, contact the instructor at*

[pbirch@cccneb.edu](mailto:pbirch@cccneb.edu)

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### ***LIBR 2210 Cataloging and Classification***

*Ruth Carlock, Instructor*

This course will include theories, concepts and activities for cataloging and classifying materials in the 21st Century. It includes the following topics:

- The bibliographic record
- Sears and Library of Congress subject headings
- Dewey Decimal and Library of Congress classification systems
- The MARC record
- Resource Description and Access Instructions

*Suggested prerequisite: LIBR 1010 Foundations of Library & Information Services*

*For information regarding this course, contact the instructor at*

[rcarlock@cccneb.edu](mailto:rcarlock@cccneb.edu)

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***For information concerning Admissions or Registration, contact: Dee Johnson***

***[djohnson@cccneb.edu](mailto:djohnson@cccneb.edu), 402-562-1418 or Toll Free at 877-222-0780 ext. 1418***



# STAR WARS

THE FORCE AWAKENS

**Private Movie Showing**

**Where:** Rivoli Theater, Seward, NE

**When:** Saturday, Dec. 19, 10:00 a.m.  
(doors open at 9:30)

**Who:** SELS Friends & guests

**Reserve your seat by Dec. 16 and SAVE!**

Movie Cost: \$6.00 plus \$1.00 SELS Friends Donation

Price after Dec. 16:

Movie Cost: \$6.00 plus \$5.00 SELS Friends Donation



A Fundraiser for the Southeast Library System Friends

All admissions will be paid for at the door.  
To reserve a seat in advance, email [info@selsfriends.org](mailto:info@selsfriends.org)  
Visit [www.selsfriends.org](http://www.selsfriends.org) for information.

## LETTERS ABOUT LITERATURE

A Library of Congress National Reading and Writing Promotion Program



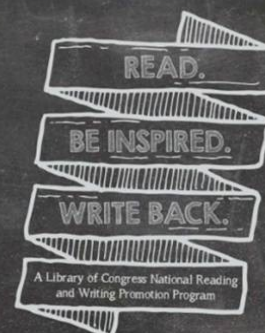
How did an author's work  
change your view of the  
world or yourself?

**Write a letter and tell the author.**

**Deadlines for submissions:**

Grades 4-6 & Grades 7-8:  
**January 11, 2016**

Grades 9-12:  
**December 4, 2015**



Find out more at [CenterForTheBook.nebraska.gov](http://CenterForTheBook.nebraska.gov)

Questions? **Contact Mary Jo Ryan**



# System Spotlight

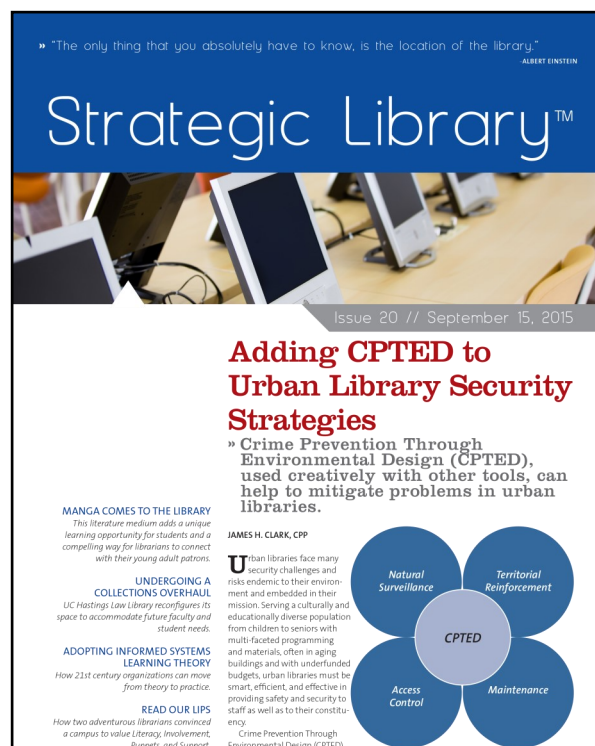
## Journal Article Request Service

This highly popular Journal Article Request Service works in this manner: Simply email the SELS office at [selsne@gmail.com](mailto:selsne@gmail.com) with the journals you'd like to get notifications for, and we'll put you on an email notification list. When a new issue of a periodical arrives at the SELS office, we will scan and distribute the table of contents via email. Then, you can request the articles you'd like to read the most. We can send one scanned copy of an article per institution. These are the journals currently available:

- [Library Journal](#)
- [Library Sparks](#)
- [Public Libraries](#)
- [School Library Journal](#)
- [School Library Connection](#)
- [American Libraries](#)
- [Nebraska Municipal Review](#)
- [Strategic Library](#)

Since July 2014 we have emailed over 3700 journal pages.

Unfortunately, this success brings a downside. It means that we are not always able to respond to requests as quickly as we would like. However, if you have a bit of patience, we will get to your request. Sometimes it is just a few days; other times it takes longer. This service is only for libraries within the SELS service area in southeastern Nebraska.



## Southeast Library System

<http://www.selsne.org/>

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